

September 16, 2006

Donald Miller

- Memorial services for Donald Miller, 79, of Groton will be 4:00pm, Sunday, September 17th at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. Rev. Tom Haggard will officiate. Don's wishes were to have his friends and family gather to share joys and memories.
- He died September 14, 2006 at Beverly Healthcare Center, Groton.
- Donald Dale Miller was born on August 2, 1927, in Winner, SD, to Herbert and Grace (Boerner) Miller. Weighing 2 lbs. 2 oz. at his birth, Don defied all odds by not only surviving his childhood in Winner and



later, Gettysburg, SD, but growing to an impressive 6'2" and over 250 lbs. Having spent his formative years scrapping with his two brothers Meryn (and Mary) Miller and Gene (and Pat) Miller, and occasionally his sister Vera (and Darwin) Nauman, Don decided to put those skills to better use during his senior year at Gettysburg High School and enlisted in the Army near the end of World War II.

- After completing his military service, Don returned to Gettysburg and married his high school sweetheart, Aileen Betty DeBoer in 1948. Don and Betty were blessed with four children: Dan (and Kathy) Miller of Pierre, SD; Becky (and Ted Zahn) of Aberdeen, SD; David (and Pat) Miller of Groton, SD; and Barbara (and Ron Wager) of Aberdeen, SD.

- Don enjoyed various careers during his long life, including several years as the owner and operator of The Dairy Mart in Gettysburg, employment as a guard at the Air Force Radar Base in Gettysburg, and civil service with the State of South Dakota in Pierre. Don finished his work life as a star route mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service, which split his time between Gettysburg and Aberdeen for many years.

- Those who knew Mr. Miller can attest to his gusto for life and his love for people. Don was happiest when he was cooking for his friends and family and would not tolerate cowards at his dinner table. If he made it, you ate it. And although his body slowly gave out on him in his last years, Don's mind and wit remained wonderfully sharp to the end -- much to the chagrin of the caring staff of the Beverly Healthcare nursing home in Groton where Don lived since 1997.

- Grateful to have called him husband, father, grandpa and grumpy old goat are Betty Miller of Aberdeen, SD, his four children, eleven grandchildren, fourteen great grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, and an extraordinary circle of friends.

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